

A2 atraumatic ends where there is less of a concern for obstruction with other devices inserted
Canal through the medical device 10.

Sub 1
IN THE CLAIMS

A3
1. (Amended) A medical device, comprising:
a body portion having a first end portion and a second end portion and being
defined by a structure including a plurality of pairs of converging struts;
a first cuff, the first cuff being attached to the first end portion;
a second cuff, the second cuff being attached to the second end portion;
at least one shoe device, the shoe being configured at one pair of converging struts
and including a spacing structure that maintains the struts in a spaced relationship; and
wherein the first and second cuffs and the shoe device provide the medical device
with atraumatic surfaces and a streamlined profile.

A4 *C1*
16. (Amended) The device of claim 15, wherein the plurality of through holes
extend through a length of the shoe device.

Sub B2
A5
19. (Amended) A medical device, comprising:
a body portion having a first end portion and a second end portion and being
defined by a structure including a plurality of pairs of converging struts;

a first cuff, the first cuff being attached to the first end portion;
a second cuff, the second cuff being attached to the second end portion; and
at least one shoe device, the shoe device being configured at one pair of
converging struts and including a spacing structure that maintains the struts in a spaced
5 relationship;
wherein the first and second cuffs provide the medical device with atraumatic
surfaces and a streamlined profile.

A5
Cand
20. (Amended) A medical device, comprising:

a body portion having a first end portion and a second end portion and being
defined by a structure including a plurality of pairs of converging struts; and

at least one shoe device, the shoe device being configured at one pair of
5 converging struts and including a spacing structure that maintains the struts in a spaced
relationship;

wherein the shoe device provides the medical device with atraumatic surfaces and
structural integrity.

A6
21. (New) The medical device of claim 1, wherein the shoe device permits the
converging struts to slide with respect to each other.

22. (New) The medical device of claim 19, wherein the shoe device permits the converging struts to slide with respect to each other.

23. (New) The medical device of claim 20, wherein the shoe device permits the converging struts to slide with respect to each other.

REMARKS

By this paper, claims 1, 16, 19 and 20 have been amended and new claims 21-23 have been added to the present application. Claims 1-23 are pending.

In the Office action dated May 22, 2002, the drawings were objected to for failing to include certain reference numerals or structural details. Accordingly, FIG. 2 has been amended to include reference numeral 36, FIG. 3 has been amended to include sutures and FIG. 7 has been amended to include reference numeral 60. As such, it is believed that the drawings now satisfy 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a).

In the outstanding Office action, the specification was objected to because an incorrect figure was referenced at page 10, line 5. As suggested by the Examiner, the specification has been amended to refer to FIGS. 5 and 6 at page 10, line 5.

Moreover, in response to the objection to claim 1, the word "a" has been inserted before "structure" at line 3 of claim 1. Additionally, the "+" at the end of line 3 has been deleted from claim 1.